



National Transportation Safety Board
Washington, DC 20594

**STATEMENT OF NTSB CHAIRMAN JIM HALL REGARDING
INVESTIGATION OF OCTOBER 17 ACCIDENT IN LINCOLN NEBRASKA**

November 1, 2000

On October 17, 2000, in Lincoln, Nebraska, a Freightliner dump truck lost primary braking capability and struck two vehicles, fatally injuring the 2 occupants. An investigation by the Safety Board in cooperation with the Lincoln Police Department, the Nebraska State Patrol Carrier Enforcement and Freightliner Corporation, revealed that a brake pin had fractured, rendering the brakes inoperable. Our investigators have learned that related incidents have been reported elsewhere. Further investigation of other Freightliner trucks has revealed that the potential for the brake pin to fracture exists and the problem was not limited to the accident truck.

Based on the information gathered in the Safety Board's investigation, Freightliner has announced today a voluntary recall of approximately 133,000 vehicles that may be affected.

I am pleased to see Freightliner respond quickly and voluntarily to this safety issue. Although we cannot bring back those lives tragically lost on October 17, quick action to resolve this problem will save lives in the future.

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